Viacom Inc Suite 1100, 1501 M Street, N W Washington, DC 20005

Anne C. Lucey Vice President Regulatory Affairs EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Tel 202 785 7300 Fax 202 785 6360

E-mail: anne.lucey@viacom.com

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION VIACOM

Marlene H. Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 Twelfth Street. Southwest Washington. D.C. 0554

He: Ex Parte Notice - MM Docket No. 02-277

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On October 30, 2002, Maureen O'Connell of News Corporation, Bill LeBeau of NBC, Anne Lucey of Viacom and Bruce Owen of Economists Incorporated met with Susan Eid of the Chairman's Office via telephone. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss possible economic studies that Economists Incorporated might conduct in connection with the biennial review of the Commission's broadcast ownership rules. Those possible studies include examination of the effect of consolidation in the local market on television news and public affairs output; the effect of duopoly on diversity of programming and news coverage; news programming on stations outside the "top 4" in a market; defining the local advertising market; viewership competition outside of the "top 4 stations"; and concentration in the market for video acquisition. We also discussed the fact that ownership rules should be eliminated.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's Rules and the Notice of Proposed Rule Making in MM Docket No. 02-277, an original and one copy of this letter are being submitted to the Secretary's office, two copies to Qualex International, and one electronic and one paper copy to each of Linda Senecal and Mania Raghdadi.

Sincerely,

Anne Mey Anne Luccy

cc: Susan Eid Linda Senecal Mania Haghdadi **Qualex International**

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